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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/643,319	08/19/2003	Michael D. Ruff	019031-000010	3826
7590	11/04/2005		EXAMINER	
JENNIFER L. SKORD MOORE & VAN ALLEN SUITE 800 2200 WEST MAIN STREET DURHAM, NC 27705			BERKO, RETFORD O	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1618	
			DATE MAILED: 11/04/2005	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/643,319	RUFF ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Retford Berko	1618	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/21/05.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-55 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) 1-55 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Acknowledgement: The Amendment and Remarks filed 10/21/04 is acknowledged.

Election/Restriction

Claims 1-55 are pending.

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-15 are drawn to a process for making a pharmaceutical composition or formulation having sustained release properties in the form of tablet or capsule and having a coating; classified in class 424, subclass 474, 467
- II. Claims 30-42 and 54 are drawn toward a process for making insulin formulation comprising human, animal or combination thereof; classified in class 424, subclass 474
- III. Claim 29 is drawn to a product, an oral pharmaceutical formulation comprising active ingredient and particulate calcium phosphate having been coated with permeation enhancer; classified in class 424, subclass ?
- IV. Claims 43-53 and 55 are drawn toward oral insulin formulation comprising particulate pharmaceutical substrate and an application of insulin coating; classified in class 424 subclass 489, 490
- V. Claims 16-28 is drawn toward coated pharmaceutical formulation comprising particulate substrate and method or process for making the same; classified as 424/489, 424/456, or 424/477.

Inventions I and IV are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product in IV, an oral insulin formulation is different from the process of making the product and coating it, the process of making a tablet or capsule and coating the product is different from the formulation itself and different processes can be used to make insulin formulation.

Inventions I and III are drawn toward a specified product (particulate oral formulation of insulin having insulin coating wherein the particulate substrate is free of polyssacharide on the one hand and a process of making sustained release formulation on the other hand. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, invention III is the particulate product and invention I is the process—the particulate insulin product can be made by a method different from the one being claimed (e.g. particulate, suspension or emulsion of insulin that is encapsulated); a different process of making particulate insulin, e.g. tablet or capsule can be used.

Inventions III and IV are drawn toward a final product—a oral pharmaceutical formulation comprising active ingredient (different from insulin) and an oral insulin formulation with a coating. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another

materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the inventions are different because though both inventions are drawn toward a pharmaceutical product, the active ingredients can be viewed as different from one another by definition.

Inventions I and V are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product in V can be viewed as distinct from I because, V is a generic pharmaceutical formulation and can contain any active agent in the core that is coated, different from for example an oral insulin formulation is also coated, which in turn is different from the different from the process of making the product and coating it, the process of making a tablet or capsule and coating the product is different from the formulation itself and different processes can be used to make insulin formulation.

Inventions II and III are drawn toward a process ad product. Inventions are different, as explained above for Inventions I and IV.

Applicant is required under 35 USC 121 to elect a single disclosed group for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable:

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the

examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Applicant is advised to elect one group, species or subspecies as indicated. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined. See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of In re Ochiai, In re Brouwer and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.

Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

THURMAN K PAGE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600
[Handwritten signature over the typed name]